Appl. No. 10/810,309 Amdt. Dated July 27, 2006 Reply to Office Action of April 28, 2006 Attorney Docket No.81716.0122 Customer No.: 26021

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Canceled)
- 2. (Previously presented) A semiconductor apparatus comprising:
- a substrate made of a diboride single crystal expressed by a chemical formula XB2, in which X includes at least one of Ti, Zr, Nb and Hf,

wherein an angle 01 formed by a normal line of a principal surface of the substrate and a normal line of a (0001) plane of the substrate is $0^{\circ} < \theta 1 \le 0.55^{\circ}$;

a semiconductor buffer layer formed on the principal surface of the substrate and made of $(AlN)_x(GaN)_{1-x}$ (0 < x \leq 1); and

a nitride semiconductor layer formed on the semiconductor buffer layer, including at least one kind or plural kinds selected from among 13 group elements and As.

- 3. (Canceled)
- 4. (Original) The semiconductor apparatus of claim 2, wherein the substrate is of ZrB2 or TiB2.
 - 5. (Canceled)
- 6. (Original) The semiconductor apparatus of claim 2, wherein the substrate is a solid solution containing one or a plurality of impurity elements of 5 atom % or less, the one or a plurality of impurity elements being selected from a group

Appl. No. 10/810,309 Amdt. Dated July 27, 2006 Reply to Office Action of April 28, 2006 Attorney Docket No.81716.0122 Customer No.: 26021

consisting of Ti, Cr, Hf, V, Ta and Nb when the substrate is of ZrB₂, or selected from a group consisting of Zr, Cr, Hf, V, Ta and Nb when the substrate is of TiB₂.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The semiconductor apparatus of claim 2, wherein the semiconductor buffer layer is AlN.

9. (Canceled)

- 10. (Original) The semiconductor apparatus of claim 8, wherein the thickness of the semiconductor buffer layer made of AlN is 10 to 250 nm.
- 11. (Original) The semiconductor apparatus of claim 2, wherein the thickness of the semiconductor buffer layer made of (AlN)_x(GaN)_{1-x} is within a range of 10 to 100 nm.
- 12. (Original) The semiconductor apparatus of claim 2, wherein x of the semiconductor buffer layer made of $(AlN)_x(GaN)_{1-x}$ is $0.1 \le x \le 1$.
- 13. (Original) The semiconductor apparatus of claim 2, wherein x of the semiconductor buffer layer made of $(AlN)_x(GaN)_{1-x}$ is $0.4 \le x \le 0.6$.

14-18. (Canceled)

Appl. No. 10/810,309 Amdt. Dated July 27, 2006 Reply to Office Action of April 28, 2006 Attorney Docket No.81716.0122 Customer No.: 26021

19. (Original) The semiconductor apparatus of claim 2, wherein the substrate is eroded and removed by etching.

20-32. (Canceled)